



#13

S/N 09/967,316

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Applicant: | MUSOLF ET AL. | Examiner: | T. PATEL |
| Serial No.: | 09/967,316 | Group Art Unit: | 2839 |
| Filed: | SEPTEMBER 28, 2001 | Docket No.: | 2316.1605US01 |
| Title: | FRONT ACCESS DSX ASSEMBLY | | |

VIA HAND DELIVERY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop 313(c)
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed November 3, 2003.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) or §1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application within three months of filing this statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy

of the International Search Report. Applicant(s) note(s) reference(s) 6,116,961 and WO 96/38884 also listed in the search report was/were previously cited to or by the Examiner.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

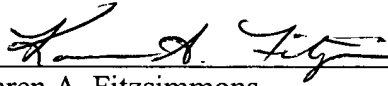
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: Dec. 2, 2003



Karen A. Fitzsimmons
Reg. No. 50,470
KAF:PLSklg

